



THE UTAH HEALTH EXCHANGE

The Utah Health Exchange is designed as a market-driven means for Utah consumers to make choices about their health care needs. With the cost of health care continually on the rise, consumers need the ability to decide what costs they are willing to bear. The Exchange gives Utah consumers that ability.

The Exchange serves two main segments of Utah's population:

- **Individuals** — The purpose of the Utah Health Exchange is to connect consumers with the private companies that can help individuals find and purchase insurance. The individual market accessed through the Exchange comprises five private online shopping services, five insurers and thousands of agents.
- **Small Businesses** — The Exchange specializes in the small business sector, and links companies of 2-50 employees to trained brokers who will help them find the plan appropriate for their workforce. Small businesses like the flexibility of the Exchange, and employees do too: The company chooses how much to pay toward employees' health care, and the employee chooses their desired level of coverage.

Defined Contribution Market

The Utah Health Exchange is a defined contribution market: This means that employers participating on the



Exchange define the dollar amount of coverage they wish to provide to employees. The employees, in turn, apply that defined contribution to the health care plan of their choosing.

The Exchange links group-coverage participants to three health care providers — United Healthcare, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah and SelectHealth — offering more than 100 insurance plans. The defined contribution market lets employers provide an array of benefits, giving employees flexibility in coverage among a mix of high-deductible plans up to full-coverage benefits, all offered with a pre-tax advantage.

Work in Progress & Health Care Reform

While Utah is still working to understand the details of how the Exchange will need to adjust to meet the requirements of state and/or federal reform, it is very likely that the core features of the defined contribution market and the technology to facilitate consumer choice will be a part of Utah's plan for the foreseeable future.

For more information about the
Utah Health Exchange
visit www.exchange.utah.gov.